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The President's Daily Brief

April 21, 1976

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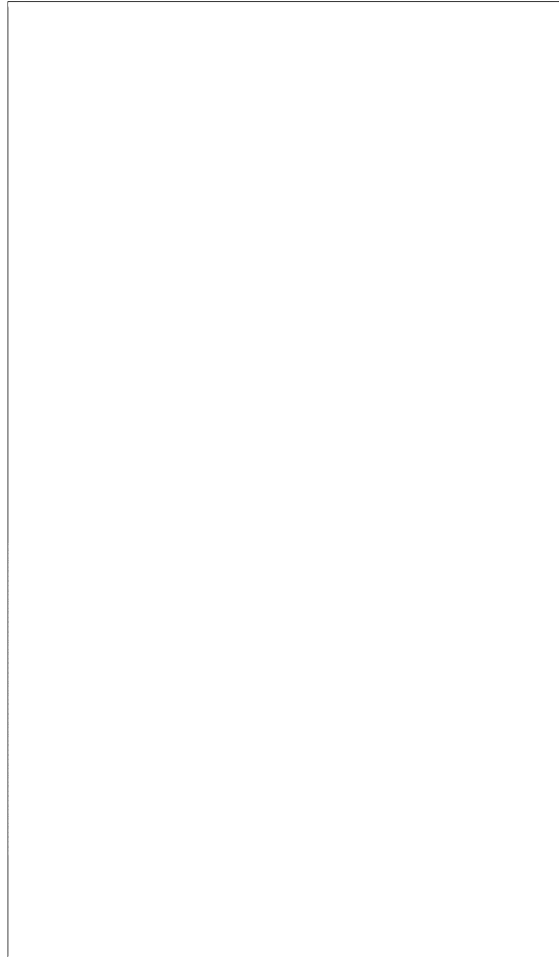
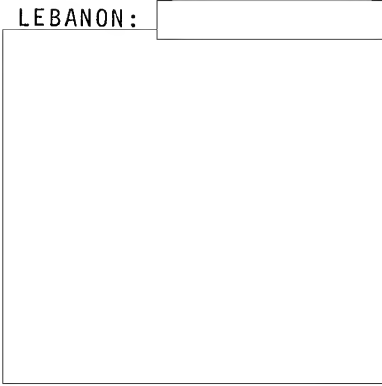
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LEBANON:



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CHINA: Chinese concern
over possible domestic
political disruption
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Teng Hsiao-ping

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nese leadership fears that the
riot of April 5 and the previous
pro-Chou En-lai demonstrations re-
flect deep-seated popular approval
of Teng's measures to consolidate
and regularize the country's poli-
tics and economy.

Peking has shown similar signs of
nervousness only twice since the
conclusion of the Cultural Revolu-
tion: at the time former presi-
dent Nixon's first visit to China
was announced and at the height
of the Lin Piao crisis.

The Chinese leadership is con-
cerned that Moscow may attempt to
exploit or take advantage of the
recent signs of disarray and dis-
sension in Peking. The participa-
tion of the army in the rallies
conveys the message to Moscow that
the military is in agreement with
political developments in Peking.



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NOTES

Officials in the Maldives have told US Ambassador Van Hollen that the Soviet Union has expressed an interest in the former RAF facility on Gan Island.

Maldivian officials now claim that an agreement giving London a veto over prospective third-country lessees until 1986 is void. They make this claim in view of what they regard as Britain's failure to provide adequately for Maldivian workers at the former base.

The US ambassador believes that if no other satisfactory alternative appears, the Maldives may try to lease the facility to any one of several governments, including the USSR, that have shown interest in the base.

* * *

Senegalese President Senghor has reportedly invited National Union leader Jonas Savimbi--now at guerrilla headquarters in eastern Angola--to Dakar to discuss the possibility of a meeting with Angolan President Agostinho Neto.

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Luanda regime had approached the Senegalese to arrange such a meeting. Neto's reported approach through Senghor may be less a bona fide overture to the National Union than an attempt to impress the Senegalese government that he sincerely desires reconciliation with his former rival.

Senegal, the Central African Republic, and Kenya are the only African governments still refusing to recognize Neto's regime.

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